

CUSTOMER NO.: 24498

Serial No. 10/021,285

Reply to First Office Action dated: 05/03/06

Response dated: 07/31/06

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**PATENT
PU010241**

JUL 31 2006

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner stated that claims 1-22 are pending in the application and that claims 1-22 stand rejected. By this response, all of the claims continue unamended.

In view of the following discussion, the Applicant respectfully submits that none of these claims now pending in the application are anticipated under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 102 or rendered obvious under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 103. Thus the Applicant believes that all of these claims are now in allowable form.

Rejections

A. 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner rejected the Applicant's claims 1-8, 10-19 and 21-22 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Nagata (US Patent No. 5,974,224). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

"Anticipation requires the presence in a single prior art reference disclosure of each and every element of the claimed invention, arranged as in the claim" (Lindemann Maschinenfabrik GmbH v. American Hoist & Derrick Co., 730 F.2d 1452, 221 USPQ 481, 485 (Fed. Cir. 1983)). (emphasis added). The Applicant respectfully submits that Nagata fails to teach each and every element of at least the Applicant's claim 1, which specifically recites:

"A method of producing a trick mode playback of a segment of video containing a plurality of predictively encoded pictures comprising the steps of:

(a) decoding a portion of a predictive picture from the plurality of predictive pictures; and,

(b) updating a portion of information stored in a memory with the portion of the predictive picture."

In contrast to the invention of the Applicant, Nagata is directed to a system and method for decoding video signals, and in particular MPEG encoded signals. The inventive aspects of Nagata can be summarized in claim 1 of Nagata which states, "when the desired frame is one of [an] I picture and P picture, only the I picture and P pictures from the first I picture in the GOP to the desired frame are decoded...".

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Nagata attempts to limit the number of frames decoded, but can only do so if referenced frames are available in memory and in their entirety. Every instance or example mentioned in Nagata for decoding signals requires the use of a complete picture and or group of pictures (GOP) for decoding. (See e.g., col. 6, lines 60-65, col. 10 lines 21-25, lines 44-47, and lines 54-56, etc.). It is clear from the specification that complete pictures are necessary to support the decoding method as would be expected of MPEG decoding systems.

The decoding method of Nagata uses a desired frame (picture) to indicate which group of pictures (GOP) to reproduce. If the frame is an I or P frame, the associated GOP (including at least one I frame) is reproduced in-order and stored in memory. If the B picture is the only desired frame, only the B picture is decoded if the reference frames are already available in memory. If not, the entire GOP including the B picture is reproduced. In accordance with Nagata, any memory storage must include an entire picture to be capable of decoding the pictures in a video segment. Nowhere in Nagata is it disclosed or suggested that portions of pictures be decoded and updated in memory as recited in the present claims.

Claim 1 of the present invention, includes, *inter alia*, a method of producing a trick mode playback of a segment of video containing a plurality of predictive encoded pictures comprising the steps of: (a) decoding a portion of a predictive picture from the plurality of predictive pictures and (b) updating a portion of information stored in a memory with the portion of the predictive picture. In accordance with present claim 1 (and essentially claim 12), a segment containing predictive frames or pictures is advantageously employed to render trick mode operations by updating only portions of the pictures. Pictures are reconstructed from portions of predicted frames. The system and method permit the decoding of pieces or portions of the pictures and the trick mode is employed using these portions as the portions are updated in memory.

The Applicant respectfully submits that Nagata fails to disclose or suggest decoding portions of predictive pictures and updating a memory with portions of the predictive pictures as presently claimed. Nagata fails to contemplate the present invention since the entire frames or even entire GOPs are necessary before decoding is permitted or executed. In fact, Nagata decodes desired frames by rendering the entire GOP unless the memory includes all of the required

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referenced frames. If the memory does not include all of the reference frames, the entire GOP must be decoded. (see, e.g., claim 1 of Nagata). Nagata needs each frame to be present in its entirety in order for the method disclosed to work. Nowhere in Nagata is it disclosed or suggested that the method be employed to decode only portions of pictures, nor does Nagata disclose or suggest that that portions of pictures be updated in memory.

In stark contrast, the present claims provide that a segment of predictive pictures need not even have an I frame available and can still be employed to provide the trick mode based on updating portions of the predictive pictures. The entire picture need not be decoded during a trick mode operation. This provides portions of the entire information, but is still sufficient to provide high speed trick modes for playback.

For at least the reasons recited above, the Applicant respectfully submits that Nagata fails to teach, suggest or disclose at least each and every element of the Applicant's claimed invention, arranged as in at least the Applicant's claim 1 as required for anticipation. Therefore, the Applicant respectfully submits that the teachings and disclosure of Nagata do not anticipate the Applicant's invention, at least with respect to independent claim 1.

Therefore, the Applicant submits that for at least the reasons recited above, independent claim 1 is not anticipated by the teachings of Nagata and, as such, fully satisfies the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 102 and is patentable thereunder.

Likewise, independent claim 12 recites similar relevant features as recited in the Applicant's independent claim 1. As described above, there is absolutely no teaching, suggestion or disclosure in Nagata for at least decoding portions of predictive pictures and updating a memory with portions of the predictive pictures as presently claimed by the Applicant's independent claims 1 and 12. As such, the Applicant respectfully submits that for at least the reasons recited above independent claim 12 is also not anticipated by the teachings of Nagata and also fully satisfies the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 102 and is patentable thereunder.

Furthermore, dependent claims 2-8, 10-11, 13-19 and 21-22 depend either directly or indirectly from independent claims 1 and 12 and recite additional features therefor. As such and for at least the reasons set forth herein, the Applicant submits that dependent claims 2-8, 10-11, 13-19 and 21-22 are also not

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anticipated by the teachings of Nagata. Therefore the Applicant submits that dependent claims 2-8, 10-11, 13-19 and 21-22 also fully satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 102 and are patentable thereunder.

The Applicant reserves the right to establish the patentability of each of the claims individually in subsequent prosecution.

B. 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner rejected the Applicant's claims 9 and 20 over Nagata in view of Tanabe (US Patent No. 6,876,812). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner applied the Nagata for teaching all of the aspects of the Applicant's claimed invention but concedes that the Nagata fails to teach that a playback speed of the fast motion trick mode in a forward direction is greater than 3x. However, the Examiner cites Tanabe for teaching that a playback speed of the fast motion trick mode in a forward direction is greater than 3x. The Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Claims 9 and 20 are dependent claims that depend either directly or indirectly from independent claims 1 and 12. As described above, the Applicant submits that the teachings of Nagata fail to teach, suggest or anticipate the Applicant's claims 1 and 12 for at least the reasons recited above. Furthermore, the Applicant submits that Tanabe also fails to teach, suggest or render obvious at least a method and system for producing trick mode playback including decoding portions of predictive pictures and updating a memory with portions of the predictive pictures as taught in the Applicant's Specification and as claimed by at least the Applicant's claims 1 and 12.

As such, the Applicant submits that at least because Nagata and Tanabe, either alone or in any allowable combination, fail to teach, suggest or render obvious at least a method and system for producing trick mode playback including decoding portions of predictive pictures and updating a memory with portions of the predictive pictures as taught in the Applicant's Specification and as claimed by at least the Applicant's claims 1 and 12, the Applicant further respectfully submits that Nagata and Tanabe, either alone or in any allowable combination, also fail to teach, suggest or render obvious the Applicant's claims 9 and 20, which depend directly from the Applicant's independent claims 1 and 12, respectively.

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Therefore, the Applicant submits that for at least the reasons recited above, the Applicant's claims 9 and 20 are not rendered obvious by the teachings of Nagata and Tanabe, alone or in any allowable combination and, as such, fully satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 103 and are patentable thereunder.

The Applicant reserves the right to establish the patentability of each of the claims individually in subsequent prosecution.

Conclusion

Thus the Applicant submits that none of the claims, presently in the application, are anticipated under the provision of 35 U.S.C. § 102 or rendered obvious under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 103. Consequently, the Applicant believes that all these claims are presently in condition for allowance. Accordingly, both reconsideration of this application and its swift passage to issue are earnestly solicited.

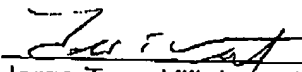
If however, the Examiner believes that there are any unresolved issues requiring adverse final action in any of the claims now pending in the application, or if the Examiner believes a telephone interview would expedite the prosecution of the subject application to completion, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned.

No fee is believed due. However, if a fee is due, please charge the additional fee to Deposit Account No. 07-0832.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald H. Willis

By:


Jorge Tony Villabon, Attorney
Reg. No. 52,322
(609) 734-6445

Patent Operations
Thomson Licensing Inc.
P.O. Box 5312
Princeton, New Jersey 08543-5312

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